



# Connecting To Nature

## Making a Bird Bath

**And a reminder of other things we can do to keep local birds healthy!**

We may remember to feed the birds, but there are other ways we can help them out as well—including offering water to drink, to bathe in and cleaning bird feeders to prevent disease.

**Please only put a bird bath out and carry out these other tasks on your own private land, or where you have permission from the landowner. When collecting materials and resources, please do this responsibly and sensibly. Please don't damage living things.**

### **Making a bird bath!**

*We always remember to help birds by providing them with more food, but we sometimes forget we could also offer them a quick drink or a washing opportunity—particularly in warmer weather.*

**Resources and materials** that could be used (but you may be more creative and think of other things):

- Something relatively shallow, and watertight that can be used as the bath—like an upturned dustbin lid. Recommended to have shallow sloping sides, and a max depth of around 10cm, with a width of at least 30cm across. Don't worry if your vessel isn't quite like this however, the most important point is that it is not too deep!
- Stones or gravel
- Something to hold the bath steady if it doesn't have a flat base
- Water from indoor or outdoor tap



Find more info and photo from: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/maketheperfectbirdbath/>



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## **Making a bird bath!**

### **How to:**

- Find a suitable location for your bird bath. Think about predators and dangers to birds, such as cats, you don't want to put it close to a bush or area which a cat can jump out of and pounce. If possible place it in an area where the birds will have full view of their surroundings, so that if they do suspect danger they can fly off quickly.
- Once a location has been identified, use bricks or other supports to ensure your bird bath will be stable. Think about all weather conditions, and any other larger animals which could disturb it or equally happily try to use it.
- Place down the vessel you are using for the bird bath.
- Add some stones or gravel into it, to make it less smooth and so birds can get good grip if they need to.
- Fill up the bath with water! Remember to keep a close eye on it, keep topping it up in summer and also replace the water if it starts to look a bit green or brown. In winter, if the water freezes make sure you break the ice (using a small object like a ball is a great way to prevent it freezing up in the first place). Please NEVER use de-icer or salt.
- Watch to see what uses the bird bath!